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Sanitary precautions with reference to milk.

The following is received from Consul-General Guenther, at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, under date of January 26, 1904:

The measures of Professor von Behring for obtaining healthful milk are to the effect of vaccinating calves up to the age of 3 months with specially prepared bacilli of human tuberculosis and thereby ridding the cows of tuberculosis.

With reference to his idea of adding formaline to milk he has reported to the Kultusministry.

He is convinced that milk just from the cow possesses elements which are capable of killing bacteria and thereby also the germs of other diseases. This property of milk, however, disappears through heating the same as well as through cold and by standing for a longer time.

By the addition of formaline in the proportion of 1:10,000, or about 16 grains to 10 quarts, von Behring believes the bactericidal properties of milk may be preserved.

He is of the opinion that the origin of human tuberculosis is mainly tuberculous infection of very young persons or infants.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Number of rats caught at London docks.

The following is received from Consul Halstead, at Birmingham, under date of February 15:

[Clipping from the London Daily Mail, February 15, 1904.]

Over 200,000 rats—202,782, to be precise—have been caught at the London docks within the last five weeks. They have fallen victims to the official rat catchers who visit every ship that comes into port and do their best to rid it of live stock of the rodent variety.

"We are very glad to see them," said an officer of a South American grain ship on Saturday. "We came here fairly swarming with the vermin, but since the rat catchers' visit I have scarcely seen one. I believe the animals come prospecting round before a vessel leaves port and pick their ship like passengers. For instance, they would sooner sign articles on a grain ship than on one carrying pig iron."

HAWAII.

Report from Honolulu—Disinfection of vessel for tuberculosis.

Chief Quarantine Officer Cofer reports, February 12, as follows: In accordance with Department circular letter No. 15, 1902, prevention of tuberculosis among merchant seamen, I have the honor to report that I have to-day disinfected the mate's quarters of the bark *Alden Besse*.

Quarantine transactions during the month of January, 1904.

PORT OF HONOLULU.

Incoming quarantine.

Steam vessels inspected and passed	22
Crew on steam vessels	3,041
Passengers on steam vessels	4,102
Sailing vessels inspected and passed	19
Crew on sailing vessels	289
Passengers on sailing vessels	8